

NEWS RELEASE
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**Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network
Receives \$5.9 Million Workforce Investment Act Grant**

The Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network has received \$5.9 million to provide workforce development services to residents and businesses in its local workforce area of Lomita, Long Beach, Signal Hill, and Torrance.

The Long Beach City Council recently approved the receipt of the federal appropriations of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds, which were received through the Governor's Labor and Workforce Development Agency and become effective on July 1, 2008. The grant provides carve-out funding for adults, dislocated workers, youth, and businesses.

"Given current economic challenges regionally and nationally, we are seeing an increased demand and importance placed on these services. They are critical to maintaining the vitality of our businesses, stimulating economic growth, and connecting residents to career opportunities in high growth industries," said the Network's Executive Director Bryan Rogers. "Working with our key partners from education, business and labor, our role is to help bridge the gap between employer needs and the skills base of our residents."

This year's grant incorporates a nominal increase to the Workforce Investment Network in funding for dislocated workers over the prior year due to the deteriorating economy of the Southern California marketplace; however, that increase is somewhat offset by a national rescission of \$250 million in previously awarded WIA funds by President Bush and the U.S. Congress. The Workforce Investment Network had to return \$244,000 as part of that action. All other funding elements are funded essentially at same levels of 2007-2008.

The Network's Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Board continues to prioritize services to residents through local career center locations that focus training and placement efforts around key industries of importance to the region. Those centers include:

Career Transition Center

Adult employment, training and business services
3447 Atlantic Avenue, 1st Floor
Long Beach, CA 90807
562.570.WORK, TTY Relay: 562.570.4629
www.pacificgatewayworkforce.com

Center for Working Families

Adult employment, training programs
1900 Atlantic Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90806
562.570.WORK, TTY Relay: 562.570.4629
www.pacificgatewayworkforce.com

MORE



Torrance Career Center

Adult employment, training and business services

1220 Engracia Ave

Torrance, CA 90501

310.782.2101, TTY Relay: 562.570.4629

www.pacificgatewayworkforce.com

Youth Opportunity Center

Academic, internship and employment services

3447 Atlantic Avenue, 2nd Floor

Long Beach, CA 90807

562.570.4700 TTY Relay: 562.570.4629

www.hireayouth.com

Harbor WorkSource Center

Adult employment, training and business services

1851 N. Gaffey Street

San Pedro, CA 90731

310.732.5700, TTY Relay

www.pacificgatewayworkforce.com

In addition, the Youth Opportunity Center contracts with six community- and education-based organizations throughout the region to further connect services to youth in the communities in which they live.